In re the Patent Application of:
WRIGHT ET AL.
Serial No. **09/976,647**
Filed: **October 11, 2001**

--This application is a continuation of Serial No. 09/714,584 filed on November 16, 2000, which is a continuation of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/474,894, filed June 2, 1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,154,637, which is a continuation of Serial No. 08/557,269, filed November 14, 1995, now U.S. Patent No. 6,047,165. --

In the Claims:

Please cancel Claims 1-17.

Please add new Claims 59-75 as follows:

59. An aircraft data transmission system, the aircraft having a data acquisition unit, comprising:

a communications unit located in the aircraft and in communication with the data acquisition unit;

a cellular infrastructure in communication with said communications unit after the aircraft has landed, wherein the communication is initiated automatically upon landing of the aircraft; and

a data reception unit in communication with said cellular information.

60. The system of claim 59 wherein said data reception unit is in communication with said cellular infrastructure via the Internet.

61. The system of claim 59 wherein said data reception unit is in communication with said cellular infrastructure via the public switch telephone network.

62. The system of claim 59 wherein said communications unit has at least one modem in communication with said cellular infrastructure and said data reception unit has at least one modem in communication with said cellular infrastructure.

63. The system of claim 59 wherein said cellular infrastructure includes:

an antenna;

a transceiver subsystem in communication with said antenna; and

a controller in communication with said transceiver subsystem.

64. The system of claim 59 wherein said data reception unit includes:

a router; and

a processor in communication with said router, said processor having a storage unit.

65. An aircraft data transmission system, the aircraft having a data acquisition unit, comprising:

means for transmitting data from the data acquisition unit via a cellular infrastructure after the

aircraft has landed, wherein transmission of the data is initiated automatically upon landing of the aircraft; and

means for receiving said data from said cellular infrastructure.

66. The system of claim 65 wherein said means for transmitting data includes a processor.

67. The system of claim 65 wherein said means for receiving data includes a processor.

68. A method of transmitting aircraft flight data from an aircraft, comprising:

receiving flight data from a data acquisition unit;

transmitting said flight data via a cellular communications infrastructure after the aircraft has landed, wherein the cellular communications infrastructure is accessed automatically upon landing of the aircraft; and

receiving said transmitted flight data.

69. A computer-implemented method of transmitting aircraft flight data from an aircraft, comprising:

receiving flight data from a digital flight data acquisition unit;

processing said flight data to prepare said data for transmission; and

transmitting said processed data via a cellular infrastructure after the aircraft has landed, wherein the

cellular infrastructure is accessed automatically upon landing of the aircraft.

70. The method of claim 69 further comprising receiving said transmitted data at a flight operations center.

71. The method of claim 70 further comprising receiving said transmitted data and transmitting said received data via the Internet before receiving said transmitted data at a flight operations center.

72. The method of claim 70 further comprising receiving said transmitted data and transmitting said received data via the public-switched telephone network before receiving said transmitted data at a flight operations center.

73. The method of claim 69 wherein processing said flight data includes:

compressing said flight data;

encrypting said flight data;

segmenting said flight data; and

constructing packets of data from said segmented flight data.

74. The method of claim 69 wherein receiving said transmitted data includes:

acknowledging receipt of said transmitted data;

reassembling said received data;